

140th Anniversary

Holly Springs Baptist Church



The belief that the minister has a right to administer the ordinances of the gospel only such as have been Regularly
May 2008
have under the power of a presbyter



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This is not a complete list of the love and services done by the members of Holly Springs Baptist Church, and in no way details all the missions, however I am humbled by the history of our church and submit this as Washington Sanford Redman's Great Great Grand-daughter, Libby Cox Radford. After my research, I understand fully why Sunday School was so important to my family.

Special thanks to the Anniversary Committee, the History Committee, Reverend Lanny Atkins, Reverend Daniel Merritt, and his Book Faith Flowing Freely: History of the Yadkin Baptist Association, Teresa Smith, Brenda Davis, Holly Springs Baptist Church Membership, Charlotte Frans, families of all the members, Sebrina Mabe, K. Vicki Johnson - Archives Librarian, Wake Forest University, Eddie Radford and my family.



Photo taken by
Eddie Radford
4/13/2008

As stated in Billy Graham's book, Peace with God the word "church" is an English translation of the Greek word ecclesia, which means "the called-out ones," As Holly (Hollow) Springs Baptist Church celebrates her 140th anniversary, let us continue to live as to show the lost world we are truly God's "called-out ones".

THE EARLY DAYS

As found in - A Short History of Surry Baptist Association and documented, "Early worship in the area was often an informal affair in log cabin homes of believers or schools, and services were often led by itinerant preachers." This is found to be true for the history of our church, as noted in hand-written meeting records, which state, "The first building was a log structure." The land that the church now sits upon was given by the Jehu Simmons family. It was noted in a church recorded meeting on November 04, 1953, that John Simmons presided over the meeting and requested that Carter Samuel "rush up the papers giving us a deed to the church lot." According to interviews with the Simmons family, Surry County Court records and a review of the deed dated August 10, 1953, it is validated that Jehu Simmons gave the church the lot, and his heirs all signed the deed to the trustees of Holly Springs Missionary Baptist Church. Therefore, the present church building was started and almost completed before discovering there was no deed. The Simmons family still to this day returns to the church for their family annual reunion on the fourth Sunday of June. This church has been very blessed by the Simmons family and their gift.

According to Surry County North Carolina Early Settlers and Road Builders 1771-1850, the Moravian settlers were faithful record keepers in North Carolina, and the driving force behind the Hollow Road from Forsyth to Virginia. A map from 1900 shows the Hollow Road was very near present day US 52. Stories of the Hollow Road are documented and believed to be the reason the church was called Hollow Springs Church. Old maps also show there was a Hollow Springs School near Stony Creek, which is near the present location of our church. This school was built on the Floyd Riddle land.

The Moravians wrote, "That the Baptists were the strongest denomination having their own preachers. If Quakers could lay two logs together and call it a meeting house, then the Scots, could do the same and become Baptist." Also, records show that many Presbyterians converted to the Baptist faith because they had no ministers of their own in the early settlement days.

THE BAPTIST MOVEMENT SPREADS

According to the information found in Faith Flowing Freely: by Reverend Daniel Merritt and the Archives Baptist Collection, at Wake Forest University, the Baptist movement was nourished by and descended primarily from English Puritan Separatists of the 16th and 17th century. The Puritans felt the Church of England (Anglican), the nation's official church, had grown cold and corrupt so they separated from the church and were called Separatists. The Baptist movement emerged out of this Separatists group. John Smyth is considered, "the founding father of the modern Baptist." One practice within the Church of England Smyth had become convinced that was not scriptural was infant baptism. He felt baptism was to be administered only when the individual reached a personal and responsible decision for Christ. An infant, of course, could not yet make such a decision. He stated, "Baptism was for believers only."

Later, and after the death of John Smyth, Thomas Helwys organized the first Baptist Church in England. He was thrown in prison for his faith by King James 1 and died in prison in 1616. However, "Baptist" seeds were planted and brought forth fruit to Colonial America and eventually to Surry County.

The Yadkin Baptist Association was formed in 1790. In early Colonial America, there were the General Baptist and the Particular/Regular Baptists. The Particular Baptists, while well organized, lacked any real evangelistic vigor. They were Calvinistic in doctrine and believed in a "particular atonement" for the elect only. They believed that Christ died only for those whom God predestined to salvation. In 1755 during the "Great Awakening", the group known as Separate Baptists arose, and they desired to reach the lost. The "Mother of Southern Baptist Churches" was started at Sandy Creek Church in 1755, in present Randolph County.

As time marched on, the Yadkin Baptist Association with a concern for missions employed missionaries for \$40.00 per month. "While efforts were made to always pay them for their work, during the 1890's, it became more and more difficult to secure sufficient funds to support their salaries."

THE HISTORY OF HOLLY SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

According to church records from May 2, 1868, at the first meeting, three missionary came to help organize Holly Springs Baptist Church.

The first missionaries mentioned are Reverend James Henry Llewellyn. He was appointed in 1867, as missionary of the northern section of the Yadkin Association. He was born in Rockingham County and his mission travels carried him from Davie County to Virginia. "He is credited with helping organize at least ten missionary churches in Surry County." Holly Springs Baptist Church was one of the churches, as the May 2, 1868 organization records state.

The second missionary mentioned on the records is Reverend Julius Terrell. He was born in Halifax County, Virginia, and moved to Stokes County in 1827. He had professed faith in Christ in the year 1812, and was ordained by a presbytery of the Mayho Baptist Association. Baptized into the fellowship and licensed to preach, he favored missions and on this account, his church later withdrew fellowship from him. He, however, continued to preach in schoolhouses and under shade trees until 1844, at which time he became a member of the Baptist Church in Madison, as they favored missions. According to records, he is buried at Sandy Ridge Church in Stokes County.

The third missionary mentioned on the records is Reverend R. D. Haymore. He was born in Virginia in 1840. It is noted that he became a student of the Rev. L. H. Shook about the time of the Civil War and traveled long distances preaching in schoolhouses and brush arbors. He was a missionary of the State Mission Board in Virginia. His work was given to churches in the Roanoke and the Blue Ridge Associations. He accepted a call to Chattanooga, Tennessee, and later moved to Mt. Airy.

These three missionaries came together and our church records reveal "The "Presbytery", as they were referred to (governing body of ordained elders and ministers), ordained Holly Springs' first pastor, W. H. Beamer, on this first meeting.

Documented records shows "Hollow Springs Church" Surry County, joined the Yadkin Baptist Association in 1868. In 1869, "Hollow Springs" left the Yadkin Baptist Association and joined the Pilot Mountain Association. Then in 1904, minutes from the Second Annual Session of the Surry Baptist Association show during the meeting at the Church of Siloam on August 18, 19, 20 and 21, that "Hollow Springs" joined the Surry Baptist Association by letter from the Pilot Mountain Association. In 1923, the meeting notes for the Surry Baptist Association document the Twenty First Annual Session was held at "Hollow Springs Baptist Church" (spelled Hollow) on July 13, 14, and 15, 1923. To this present day, Holly Springs belongs to the Surry Baptist Association.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Sunday (Sabbath) School was a movement started in the 1800's, however, not without issues. As noted in one resource book, Faith Flowing Freely: History of the Yadkin Baptist Association, "Sabbath Schools were contrary to the Word of God. It was almost considered a crime to engage in a Sabbath School." As time passed, in 1875, a Sunday School Committee during this period scattered the seeds. The committee felt it was a worthy goal to have Sunday School in every church. The committee visited neighborhood churches and saw an upward trend in Sunday Schools. They worked very hard and faced much oppression. Many churches only had Sunday School in the summer months and early fall. Winter weather and difficulty of travel by foot, wagon or horse back often was a common reason for the decline. On the Sunday School Committee were members from Holly Springs, Reverend C.C. Haymore and Washington Sanford Redman from 1875-1899. They served with others from Surry and Yadkin Counties.

Sunday School at Holly Springs was organized and started on April 7, 1883, with Rufus H. Redman as the first superintendent, and Jacob James, as his assistant.

In the 125th anniversary bulletin, on August 27, 1972, Flossie Simmons notes, "We admire the precious and dedicated Christians who have gone before us and paved the way for us to be what we are today. God has blessed us through the years and today we are most thankful." This statement is still felt on the 140th anniversary of Holly Springs Baptist Church.

HOLLY SPRINGS STRUCTURES AND SERVANTS

So just where was our first log structure used for the purpose of worshipping? According to the Surry County Tax Office, it was probably at the west end of the present day cemetery. From the Kallam Cemetery Book 2, Holly Springs Cemetery has at least one headstone marked in the year 1700. After review of the history and interviews with families, it is believed that Holly Springs may first have been a Primitive Baptist Church. Church records indicate one member was removed from fellowship from the church for "being hard-shell" and on the records dated, May 4, 1894, a motion was made to reorganize and was, however rescinded. Washington Sanford Redman then made a motion that the Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum and the Church Covenant be submitted to the committee, consisting of the pastor and the deacons, and as many others as the pastor wishes to select to revise and alter as they thought wise and best. The motion was moved, seconded, and carried. The records revealed the church met on a Saturday for this purpose.

The second building plans were adopted in 1905, after thirty-two years of ministering to the community. The church began to see the need for a newer and bigger building. The original log structure was replaced with a new frame building. In that simple framed structure, many revivals were held and many lives were changed. (This building set in the same yard, as the brick building, if looking to the left at the front doors of the brick building, the frame church was only a few feet away.) Precious history notes from this time period show, "The church rejoiced as they witnessed people coming into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ!"

In a search through the clerk's records, a marked difference in the conferences of our church in the nineteenth and the twentieth centuries was found. There were many church trials, and some members were dismissed from the church while many were restored to fellowship. The present day church records show but few trials. The record shows also, many more ministers have served in our church, than members have served as clerks. Lazareth Smith, the first clerk, served from 1868 to 1876. He was succeeded by Washington Sanford Redman who served as clerk until 1916. His son-in-law, Silas M. Stone, who served until 1931, followed him. These clerks were men of the highest renown who put the church and the serving of God foremost in all phases of life.

Reverend J. H. Beamer was the first pastor.

From 1870 to 1900 the following pastors served at Holly Springs: Reverend Gabriel Boyles, Reverend John Vipperman, Reverend C. C. Haymore, Reverend J. K. Rose, Reverend T. H. James, Reverend W. M. Phillips, Reverend N. J. Matthews, Reverend C. C. Arrington, Reverend Robert Loftis, Reverend C. C. Brown, Reverend S. E. Gentry, Reverend C. C. Arrington 1906-1910, Reverend J. W. Simmons 1910-1911, Reverend J. H. Haynes 1911-1916, Reverend J. W. Chilton 1916-1917, Reverend J. W. Calloway 1917-1931, Reverend O. H. Hauser 1932-1938, Reverend Lonnie Flemming 1939-1940, Reverend J. W. Chilton 1940-1941, Reverend L. M. Cook 1941-1942, Reverend D. D. Hodges 1941-1948, Reverend Elma Painter 1948-1949, Reverend D. D. Hodges 1950-1956, Reverend Frank Sitton 1956-1967, Reverend Eugene Edmondson 1967-1970, Reverend Carl E. Sizemore 1971-1974, Reverend John D. Hemmingway 1975, Reverend Frank Sitton 1977-1984, Reverend George Pauley 1984-1987, Reverend James Hall 1988-1995, Reverend Michael Workman 1995-1999. Reverend Lanny Atkins 2001- Present day.

Holly Springs Baptist Church is considered to be one of the oldest in the Surry Baptist Association. Many revivals continue to be held at the church and have influenced many lives.

Reverend Lanny Atkins has reviewed the recorded church records and discovered, Holly Springs Baptist Church was the mother church of two others churches. On November 5, 1898, Holly Springs granted letters to members to organize Flat Rock Baptist Church. On November 24, 1906,

members were granted letters to organize Bannertown. Reverend Atkins found in the records, July 9, 1881, the church proceeded to select its delegates to send to the association, who were J. E. Baker, T. H. James, Washington Sanford Redman, Bradley Matthews, and W. D. Haymore. On the same date, deacons were sent from Holly Springs Church to Sulfur Springs Baptist Church to aid their communion; however, the actual names were not recorded.

On January 31, 1914, a collection was taken up to pay for the new organ at cost of \$26.00. On July 4, 1914, a collection was taken up for the state missions of \$2.60. On November 7, 1914, a collection was taken for the orphanage in Thomasville totaling \$2.00. Other dates showed many missions and activities. In 1932, wings were added to the framed building for additional Sunday School classes. On December 10, 1950, before the hour of worship, a meeting of the board of trustees and the board of deacons was held. It was presided over by the pastor - D. D. Hodges. A motion was made concerning a new brick building approximately 36' x 60' with a full basement. The motion was seconded and approved at a cost of \$20,000.00. At this time, the Church had \$517.00 in the treasury. On January 12, 1951, the finance committee held a business meeting and gave the building committee authority to make plans to start the new church, not to exceed \$25,000.00. By October 1952, the church was doing all possible to raise funds for the building program. The entire membership was authorized to solicit funds. Box suppers, wiener roasts, auction sales and everything the church could think of in the realm of Christian standards were used for raising money for the building program. Dillard Cook was approved as the paid contractor, and deserves credit for laboring and looking after the construction of the new building from day to day. Bob Brown gave land to the Holly Springs Church for a parsonage, in 1956, and the church again rose to the challenge and a parsonage was built. Again, the church saw a need for additional educational space and during Reverend Frank Sitton's second pastorate period, the Holly Springs Educational Facility was constructed. Many of the members contributed to the work and construction of the addition, which is still used today.

In October of 1967, Reverend Eugene Edmondson was called to serve as pastor and served until 1970. During those years, spiritual growth was a high priority and there were many revivals that led the people of Holly Springs Baptist Church to rededicate their lives to serving God.

In March of 1971, Reverend Carl E. Sizemore was called to serve as pastor. He served as pastor until February, 1974, and while ministering here he led the church through many changes. The church made additions to the parsonage, the church facilities were air conditioned, new hymnals were purchased, and the church parking lot was paved.

From February 1975, until August 1975, Reverend Hemingway served as pastor. His ministry ended here when he died of a heart attack.

In January of 1977, the church called Reverend Frank Sitton to serve as their pastor for a second time. He faithfully served Holly Springs until his retirement on March 11, 1984. During the years of his second pastorate here, Reverend Sitton led the church in many ways. In June of 1978, after just one month of prayer, the church celebrated with a ground breaking ceremony which began construction of the Educational Facility that is still in use today. In 1983, the new addition was complete as well as a new steeple, and cushions on the pews.

In November of 1984, Reverend George Pauley was called to be the pastor. Reverend Pauley was fluent in Spanish and was instrumental in helping the Surry Baptist Association begin the Hispanic Mission. During his ministry, he helped to build bridges between cultures that are still intact today. Reverend Pauley served as pastor until August 1987.

In May of 1988, Reverend James Hall was called to serve as pastor. His ministry lasted until February of 1995. During his leadership, the church records indicate that Vacation Bible School was the largest the church had experienced as of then. The average attendance for the 1988 Vacation Bible School was one hundred and twenty-two. During 1990, the church installed a new sound system and began a hand bell ministry. During 1993, the church renovated the Fellowship Hall and did a few other improvements.

In November of 1995, Reverend Michael Workman was called to serve as pastor. Under his leadership, the church purchased its first bus and was in deep prayer as how to begin a bus ministry with this new tool. The church placed a renewed emphasis on becoming disciples of Jesus through Discipleship Training and many other growth opportunities that the church offered. The church also took the steps necessary to call its first year round Youth Ministries Director. In 1996, the church called Carole W Workman to serve in that position.

In July 2001, Reverend Lanny Atkins was called to serve as pastor. During his ministry, the church has adopted a new constitution and completed the process of the church becoming incorporated. There has continued to be an emphasis on discipleship training during his ministry. The church has repaved the parking lot and made several renovations to the church facility including painting and new carpet in the downstairs of the educational facility. After Yvette Sisk resigned as youth director, the church called Tina Whitaker to serve in this capacity. Following her, Lynn Edmonds Wilkes was called to serve as youth director. Lynn has led the youth in a strong emphasis on missions during her ministry. In 2006, she organized and took a group of 20 members from Holly Springs to go to San Jose, California, on a mission trip to work with a ministry called City Team. During Reverend Atkins' ministry, the church has continued to grow in their support of missions through giving to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, as well, as supporting many local ministries. The church has purchased a video projector for use in our church services. In 2007, Brinkley Church purchased and donated a grand piano in memory of his grandparents, Sam and Alma Joyce, and in honor of his mother and her sisters. Most recently, Lynn Wilkes has helped to organize a Praise Team to sing during the morning worship service. Rev. and Mrs. Atkins have also started a ministry to provide DVD's of the morning worship service to our shut-ins each week. Church activities for our 140th anniversary celebration, under the directions of our pastor included, anniversary license plates for \$5.00 each, hosting a week of cottage prayer meetings in homes of members to prepare for a revival during the week of April 27 - May 2, 2008, church services on May 4, 2008, followed with "Dinner on the Grounds", and a singing in the afternoon and, the anniversary booklet for sale at \$10.00 each. Families, friends and neighbors were all invited to join in the celebration.

CHURCH MEMBERS KNOWN TO HAVE SERVED IN THE MILITARY

Francis M. Belton - United Confederate Army - Civil War

(Watt) Washington Sanford Redman - United Confederate Army - Civil War
prison of war

Lewis Harding Armstrong - United States Army - killed in action World War
II - body rest in Italy

Oliver Cromer - United States Army

Ellis Haymore - United States Army

John E. Mabe - United States Army

Harvey A. Sykes - United States Army - killed in action World War II in the
Philippines

Glen F. New - United States Army - killed in action World War II

Calvin Colledge Inman - United States Navy

Cathel L. Simmons - United States Navy

Elbert Lee O'Neal - United States Air Force

Dave Bell - United States Navy - World War II served in the Pacific

Codell Reeves - United States Army served in World War II

Buddy Culler - United States Army - Vietnam War

Harrison Towe - United States Navy - World War II

Tom Inman - United States Army - World War II served in Italy

We are grateful for their services to keep us free. God Bless you all.

THE PRESENT DEACONS

Dave Bell

Gray Childress

Harold Creasy

Dennis Culler

Mike Estes

Tom Inman

Timothy Johnson

Thurmond Joyner

Roger Needham

Gray Peele

Eddie Radford

Chad Riddle

Harrison Towe also served as Treasurer from 1970 to 1990

Charlie Wilkes

CONSTITUTION

- 1st This shall be called Holly Springs Baptist Church of Christ
- 2nd Any person may become a member of this church who shall give evidence of genuine conversion and shall be generated in water upon a profession of their faith, by a legal administrator
- 3rd This church shall be an independent body so far as her internal rights are concerned and shall be subject to no laws save those enacted by our Lord Jesus Christ
- 4th The ordinances of the gospel shall be duly administered in this church and the discipline strictly executed which is laid down in the New Testament
- 5th Every member of this church shall have the right of franchise and a majority shall rule in all cases not involving the fellowship of the church
- 6th This church shall be governed by a proper deacon
- 7th This church shall have a deacon or deacons and a regular moderator chosen by a majority of the church.

(Note: See October 9, 1880 minutes concerning constitution, articles of faith, and church covenant adoption). *Spelling of words and phrases are as noted in the original documents.

CHURCH COVENANT

We the undersigned having given ourselves to the Lord we agree to give ourselves to each other

By the will of God we agree to strive together for the faith of the gospel

We agree to watch over each other for good

We mutually promise to assist each other in our pilgrimage through the world

And for that purpose we promise to attend all our churches meeting

Whether stated or called when in our power

We agree to do all we can for the extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom and for the spreading of the gospel according as the Lord has and continues to prosper

Holly Springs Baptist Church



ARTICLES OF FAITH

- 1st We believe in one only true and living God and there are 3 persons in the godhead. The Father Son & Holy Ghost are spirit and they are one
- 2nd We believe that the contents of the old and new testament are the word of god & the only rule of our faith & practice
- 3rd We believe that Christ died for the sin of the whole world
- 4th We believe in election by grace
- 5th We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the inputted righteous of Christ
- 6th We believe that the saints persevere in grace and never fall away finely
- 7th We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances belonging to the church and was instituted by Jesus Christ while on earth and true believers only are subjects of these ordinances and we believe the true mode of baptism is immersion
- 8th We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a General Judgment
- 9th We believe the punishment of the wicked will be eternally and the joys of the righteous eternal
- 10th We believe that no minister have a right to administer the ordinances of the gospel only such as have been regularly set apart by the church and come under the hands of a presbyter

Waldy Springs Baptist Church
of Christ

May the 2. and 1888

Elders J. H. Lawlin, Julius, Inall

R. J. Heymore met and confers

the organization of the church

Voluntarily R. J. Heymore preached

then the church proceeded to the
ordination of W. H. Brown when
after examination ordained him

D. Smith

Waldy Springs Baptist Church
of Christ June the 2. and 1888

after divine services the
congregation and proceeded to the

1 Fellowship of the Church
imagined into and for
good

2 a new opportunity extends
the reception of members
more care is placed

3 This church shall care
has itself in the way
of organization no further
dismiss in order

W. H. Brown

L. Smith

The Sabbath

Holly Springs Baptist Church is 125 years old this month and is one of the oldest churches in Surry County. How proud we all must feel that our church has arrived at this place in history; and how we must admire all the precious and dedicated Christians who have gone before us and paved the way for us to be what we are today. God hasblessed us through the years and today we are most thankful.

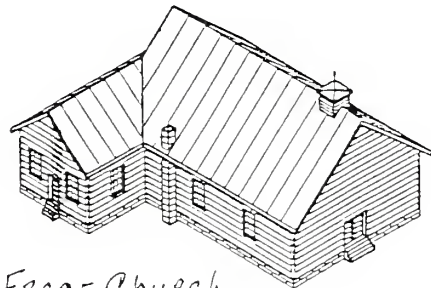
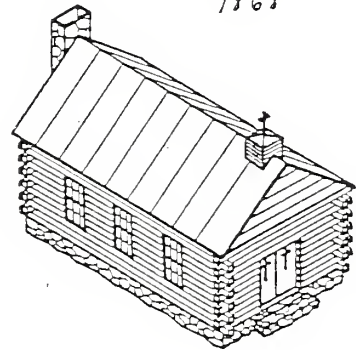
.....UPON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD
MY CHURCH AND THE GATES OF HELL
SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT.
Matthew 16:18

AND THE LORD ADDED TO THE CHURCH
DAILY SUCH AS SHOULD BE SAVED.
The Acts 2:47

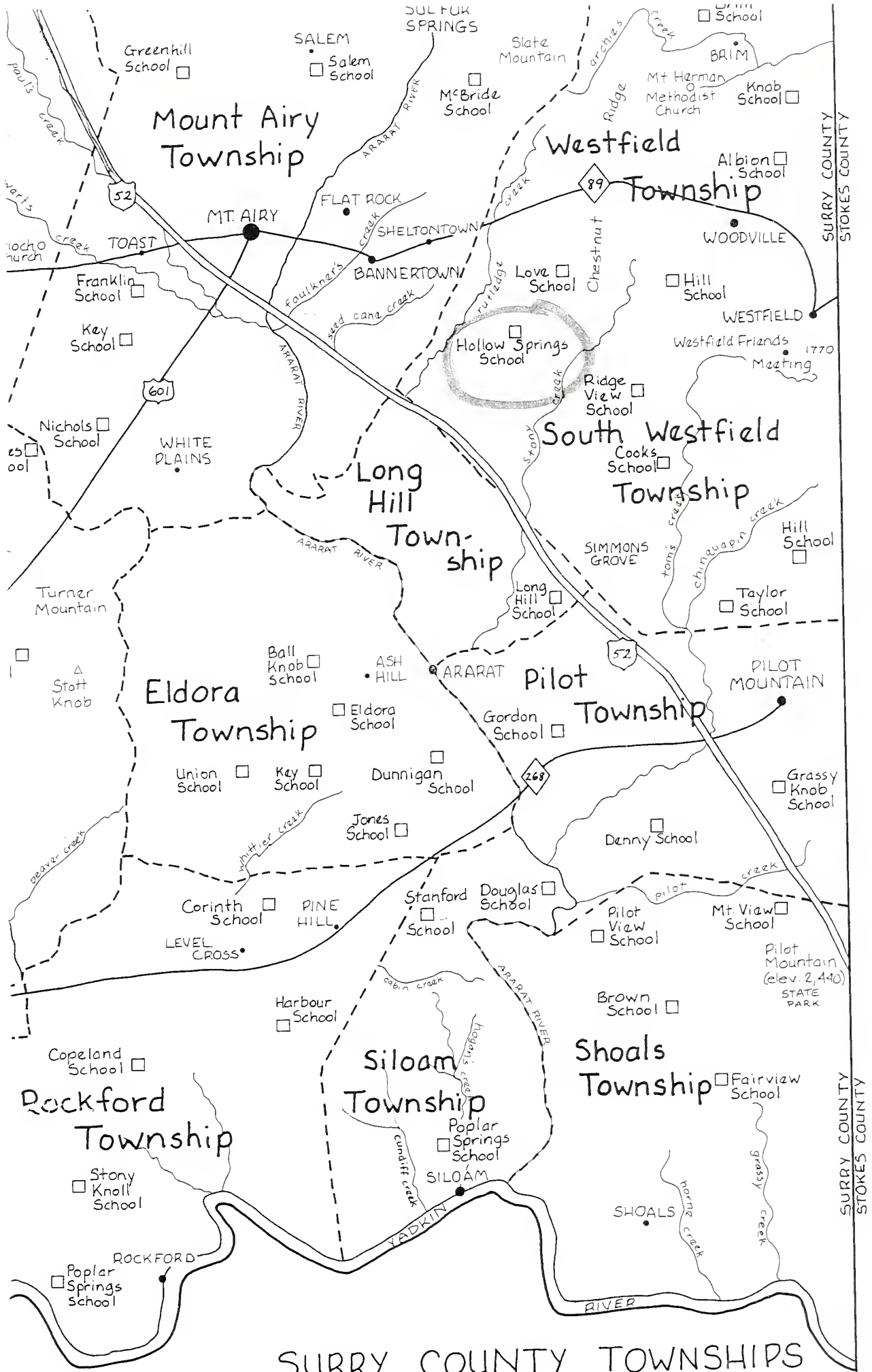
"WE KNOW NO OTHER WAY BUT TO PRESS FORWARD.....IN THE
ADVANCEMENT OF HIS KINGDOM AND ALWAYS FOR HIS GLORY."

Flossie Simmons
August 27, 1972

Log Church
1868



FRAME Church
1905



SURRY COUNTY TOWNSHIPS

— INCLUDING SCHOOLS FROM EARLY 1900s —



Ground breaking

Holly Springs Baptist Church held groundbreaking ceremonies Sunday in preparing for construction on a new addition to the present educational building. When completed the structure will stand three stories high and contain 5,400 square feet. The new addition is expected to cost ap-

proximately \$100,000. Participating in the ceremonies Sunday were (left to right) Ray Francis, Surry Baptist Association Missionary Oren Bradley, Dillard Cook, Leon Riddle and Pastor Frank Sitton. Other members of the building committee are Sam Joyce and Charles Creasey.



REFERENCES

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KALLAM CEMETERY BOOK 2, Lemuel Wallace Kallam.

Learning Resources Center - Surry Community College
CARLOS P. SURRATT GENEALOGY ROOM.

Z. Smith Reynolds Library, Archives/Baptist Collection, Wake Forest University.

The Mt. Airy News.

Surry County Register of Deeds.

Surry County Tax Department.

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Baptist Church of Christ

2. Any person may become a member of
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strictly executed which is laid down in the
New Testament

5. Every member of this church shall have
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Rule in all cases not involving the
fellowship of the church

6. This church shall be governed By a
proper deacon,

7. This church shall have a deacon or deacons
and a regular successor chosen By a
majority of the church

2. 11
11